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ABSTRACT

The League of Schools in southeast Idaho described in this report is a staff development consortium consisting of 15 local school districts, the College of Education, and the College of Liberal Arts at Idaho State University. Initiated in the belief that the ongoing training needs of classroom teachers could best be addressed by a coalition of trainers and practitioners working as a team to deal with common concerns, the League develops and maintains a permanent regional system of cooperative inservice planning, delivery, and evaluation. Districts are provided with technical assistance in all areas of staff development (e.g., long range planning, training of personnel, and program management). Resources are pooled for staff development purposes. This program is an effective vehicle that yields benefits for all members in shared resources and talents. It works because of the constant contact with the field. Activities are developed to meet specific needs, and deliberate efforts are made to help teachers determine needs. Services in technical assistance and organization of plans for activities are largely provided by a League inservice coordinator who has staff development responsibilities in each of the institutions. The League concept addresses not only staff development but also the large issues of school/university cooperation, structural relationships, and inter-institutional responsibility. Related articles, news releases, and brochures are appended. (SM)

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LEAGUE OF SCHOOLS

1989

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY
POCATELLO, IDAHO 83209-0009

Ms. Angela Luckey, Coordinator
League of Schools

Dr. Richard Sagness, Dean
College of Education

Mr. Howard May, Superintendent
Oneida County School District #351
Chairman, League of Schools

HE022657

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
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Angela Luckey

Idaho State University

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AASCU/ERIC Model Programs Inventory Project

The AASCU/ERIC Model Programs Inventory is a two-year project seeking to establish and test a model system for collecting and disseminating information on model programs at AASCU-member institutions--375 of the public four-year colleges and universities in the United States.

The four objectives of the project are:

- To increase the information on model programs available to all institutions through the ERIC system
- To encourage the use of the ERIC system by AASCU institutions
- To improve AASCU's ability to know about, and share information on, activities at member institutions, and
- To test a model for collaboration with ERIC that other national organizations might adopt.

The AASCU/ERIC Model Programs Inventory Project is funded with a grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education to the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, in collaboration with the ERIC Clearinghouse on Higher Education at The George Washington University.

ABSTRACT

IN IDAHO -- IT IS WORKING

THE LEAGUE OF SCHOOLS -- AN INTER-INSTITUTIONAL APPROACH TO STAFF DEVELOPMENT

The League of Schools is a staff development consortium consisting of fifteen local school districts, the College of Education, and the College of Liberal Arts. Resources are pooled for staff development purposes. Services in technical assistance and organization of plans for activities are largely provided by a League inservice coordinator who has staff development responsibilities in each of the participating institutions. Funding for the project comes from member districts as dues and the College of Education at Idaho State University. The League concept addresses not only the staff development issue but also the large issues of school/university cooperation, structural relationships and inter-institutional responsibility

INTRODUCTION

An interesting approach to the organization of professional growth services has been in operation in southeast Idaho since June, 1982. The League of Schools is a staff development consortium consisting of 15 local school districts and the College of Education at Idaho State University. Initiated in the belief that the ongoing training needs of classroom teachers can best be addressed by a coalition of trainers and practitioners working as a team to deal with common concerns, the League seeks to develop and maintain a permanent regional system of cooperative inservice planning, delivery, and evaluation.

BACKGROUND

The participating districts had long been aware that "teacher inservice" practices all too often generated dissatisfaction, and little improvement in classroom learning. However, hampered by insufficiency of funding, these rural districts found it difficult to bring about improvements. The College of Education at Idaho State University, similarly suffering from inadequacy of funding for its field service component, was struggling to make adequate response to inservice requests which lacked coherence and allowed little time for long-range planning and efficient allocation of resources. Consequently, these districts and the College of Education developed an organizational arrangement for the pooling of resources for staff development purposes and thereby brought into being an efficient, responsive professional growth system on a regional basis. Jointly, they have been able to make provision for technical assistance and organizational services which individually they were unable to provide to their satisfaction. These services are largely provided by a League inservice coordinator who has staff development responsibilities in each of the participating institutions.

Not only are districts provided with technical assistance in all areas of professional growth, they also have recognized access to program decision-makers and instructional resources at Idaho State University since the coordinator also serves on the faculty of the College of Education, thus providing a systematic channel for the two-way communication. Teachers have a structure and a process for identifying with specificity their real training needs and the appropriate resources to address then; at the same time the College of Education is provided with information which permits it to make long-range plans for efficient allocation of personnel resources for field services. The overall result is a more effective staff development program which does have an impact on classroom practices.

To illustrate the level of activity in this enterprise, consider the following data. When the League of Schools was first in operation, during the 1983-84 academic year, the College of Education provided forty-five workshops and courses for both credit and non-credit, involving sixteen school districts and affecting approximately 1,400 teachers and administrators. During the 1987-88 academic year, there were one hundred fifteen credit or non-credit activities involving twenty-two school districts and affecting approximately 2,109 teachers and administrators.

In addition, there were sixteen activities which involved several districts. This is another advantage of the League organizational structure and its associated planning in that common needs across districts can be met by multidistrict delivery of services. This is not only cost effective, but contributes to greater collegiality between districts. As one further comment on multidistrict activities, the College of Liberal Arts has been working through the League to improve science subject matter knowledge and skills for teachers at all levels in southeastern Idaho. Also, the Northwest Regional Education Laboratory was successful in receiving a federal grant for school improvement using the League of Schools as the project focus.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT OR PROGRAM

The League concept is a very simple one, but its implementation marks a real step forward. This is so not only by virtue of the sharing of material resources for mutual convenience in the area of staff development, but the League addresses the larger issues of school/university cooperation, structural relationships, and inter-institution responsibility. Traditionally, territorial rights have been carefully preserved and there have been few incentives for those who struggle to promote systems of interaction among institutions. The League of Schools represents the beginning of an attempt to dismantle these obstacles to responsible collaboration.

The League of Schools is made up of school districts from the Region V of the State of Idaho educational system. These include:

American Falls Joint School District #381
Arbon Elementary School District #383
Bear Lake County School District #33
Blackfoot School District #55
Grace Joint School District #148
Marsh Valley Joint School District #21
North Gem School District #149
Oneida County School District #351
Pocatello School District #25
Preston Joint School DIstrict #201

Rockland School District #382
Sho-Ban Tribal School
Snake River School District #52
Soda Springs Joint School District #150
West Side Joint School District #202
College of Education, Idaho State University
College of Liberal Arts, Idaho State University

The consortium was organized to provide a process and vehicle by which the participating school districts and the College of Education (Idaho State University) can mutually benefit from a collaborative arrangement in organizing for staff improvement (assessing needs, prioritizing inservice training, identifying human and material resources, allocating financial resources, delivery of staff improvement programs and evaluating their effectiveness).

The College and the public schools are committed to providing quality education for children. Providing continuing staff development is essential for quality education. The coalition of the public schools with a training organization has great potential to improve both systems to meet this end. This organizational structure provides for better utilization of scarce human, material and financial resources for the improvement of staff inservice and education in general. The collaboration also strengthens the college faculty and serves as a vehicle to promote change within this body. The college has become more responsive to the needs of participating school districts and the organization has provided valuable input into the university training programs for teachers, administrators and other special personnel.

The building level is the most effective level for staff development. Those individuals receiving the inservice training should have an opportunity to have input into what, who, and how such delivery will be made. The broad area of teaching and learning can best be addressed by a coalition of trainers and practitioners working as a team to deal with common concerns.

A systematic and responsive organizational structure at the district level is also required for an effective staff development program. The superintendent, assisted by staff input and assistance from the College, is the final decision maker about the extent and nature of staff development programs to be delivered to the school district.

There are staff development needs that are common across school district lines. Collaborative planning and programming are effective ways of meeting these common needs.

RESULTS

Districts are provided with technical assistance in all areas of staff development; e.g., long range planning, training of personnel, program management, and evaluation.

Pooling of resources for staff development organization relieves financial strain on districts. This also helps in providing the unity, network, and the support necessary for application for grants showing that the endeavor will affect a wide population base.

Districts are provided with a recognized communication channel to program decision makers at Idaho State University and provide input to those decisions. The close working relationship with the districts gives the university personnel the opportunity to learn firsthand what the needs of schools and of teachers are. The College of Education has a recognized and formal access to school districts and their professional development needs and is provided with the opportunity for developing and modeling a variety of responses to inservice needs and requests.

The project is staffed by a League inservice coordinator and a secretary. The superintendents of member districts meet at a minimum four times a year to discuss inservice activity plans. The League coordinator visits the member districts during the year to conduct needs assessments or discuss plans for inservice activities with professional development committees.

Funding for the project is a matching situation with half of the coordinator's salary coming from the member districts as dues ranging from $75.00 to $6,500.00 per district and the remaining half from the College of Education. Classes or activities are funded by the sponsoring district, teachers, or grants through a contract. Through this contract method, districts are able to receive services at a reduced price.

In the six years since the League organization, membership has grown from four school districts to fifteen districts and the College of Education and Liberal Arts. The fifteen districts are located in seven counties in the southeastern corner of Idaho. These districts serve 31,375 students. The range of each population is 24 to 13,360 students.

The League office acts as a clearinghouse for questions, problems, coordination and development of activities. Among the League activities which the office conducts are a talent bank resource handbook containing ideas, names and addresses of instructors for inservice activities; referral services and grant writing. The League also has a newsletter, "The League Leads." Through this publication, members are informed of all activities in which teachers may participate and upcoming events in the College of Education.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The League of Schools is an effective vehicle which yields benefits for all members in shared resources, talents and helping in the mutual professional growth and development of staff and personnel. This program works because of the constant contact with the field. Activities are developed to meet specific needs. It is a service which is responsive instead of soliciting participants in activities. Deliberate efforts are made to help teachers determine needs. An example of this is the Onward to Excellence school improvement process. Through this process, schools are guided to use research findings, compare these with the current program and develop a strategy and implementation plan for improvement. This process was first introduced through the League of Schools in the state of Idaho by the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory who named the League as the target group when writing a grant for federal monies for school improvement.

The League of Schools concept is one which can work with colleges and school districts in a cooperative manner and in the spirit of mutual trust, responsiveness and willingness to serve each other.

Apker to Describe Future Administrators

Dr. Wes Apker, executive director of the Association of California School Administrators, will be the keynote speaker at the Fourth Annual Administrators' Winter Conference at Pocatello's Quality Inn today and Thursday.

"Administration in the 1990's" will be the title of his talk this evening. It starts after a 7 p.m. dinner meeting. He also is scheduled to give a presentation from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Friday.

The theme of the conference is "Administrators for Tomorrow's Schools," according to Dr. Robert T. Frossard, director of the Bureau of Educational Research and Services (BERS) in the Idaho State University College of Education.

Hosting the conference are BERS and the League of Schools. The league has a membership which includes the ISU College of Education and several southeast Idaho school districts. It is the service arm of BERS.

"We want administrators and school board members to know about and attend this conference," Frossard said. The conference meeting Friday runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

A welcome will be presented by Diane Bilyeu, a member of the State Board of Education. Other scheduled presentations are by:

- Dr. Alicia Montoya, an ISU assistant professor in the Department of Education, who will speak on "How Teacher Expectation Student Achievement (TESA) Can Improve Student Performance."
- Rulon Olsen, Logan High School principal, who will speak on "Trimester Schedule: What We Have Learned."
- Dr. Molly Drotter, Pocatello High School assistant principal, who will give a talk on "Alternative Program for 'At Risk' Students."
- Dr. James Girvan, an assistant professor in the ISU Department of Physical Education and Health Education, who will present a program on "Developing a Curriculum About AIDS."
- Dr. Richard L. Sagness, dean of the ISU College of Education and president of the Pocatello Chamber of Commerce, who will speak on "Education and Business."

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The Middle East has become a focal point for United States international relations, and yet few of us know the area well enough to adequately analyze the various facets of the issues involved. Because of the Middle East's critical importance in the world today, it is increasingly imperative for U.S. citizens, especially educators, to more fully understand this region so rich in history, culture, politics, and economics. It is even more important to help our young people—students in today's schools—understand the Middle East because of its direct impact on their lives—today and into the future.

AT THIS CONFERENCE YOU WILL:

- increase your understanding of the history, culture, geography, and politics of Middle Eastern countries.
- hear how other teachers incorporate Middle Eastern studies into their curricula.
- receive "classroom ready" materials that will help your students gain a fuller understanding of the Middle East, plus large quantities of materials for your own use,

WHO IS ATTENDING

The conference is designed for 25 secondary social science teachers from the eleven school districts which make up the League of Schools.

CONFERENCE CONTRIBUTORS

DR. GEORGE GATES
Idaho State University
Associate Professor of Education
Responsible for emcee duties

DR. TAHMOORES SARRAF
Idaho State University
Associate Professor of Sociology
Responsible for luncheon menu and recipes

MS. HULDAH BELL
Idaho State University
Coordinator, Student Union Scheduling
Responsible for coordination of physical facilities

MS. HELEN HUFF
President
Idaho International Institute
Responsible for coordination with Lt. Governor LeRoy's office

TEACHING ABOUT THE ARAB WORLD

A One-Day Conference for Secondary Social Science Teachers of Southeastern Idaho

May 4, 1985
Idaho State University
South Fork of Salmon River Suite
Student Union Building
Pocatello, Idaho

sponsored by

The League of Schools as a result of a grant from National Council on U.S./Arab Relations

TEACHING ABOUT THE ARAB WORLD

DATE: Saturday, May 4, 1985

TIME: 8:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

PLACE: "South Fork" of Salmon River Suite, 4th Floor, Student Union Building, Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho

COST: $5.50 (Arab luncheon)

REGISTRATION

Participants' names will be submitted by the school district superintendent. Mailings to the registrants will come from the League of Schools' office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact:

Ms. Jody Scott
Room 226
College of Education
Idaho State University
Pocatello, Idaho 83209-0009
(208) 236-3202/3203

PROGRAM

8:30- 9:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION Clearwater Room, ISU Student Union Building
9:00- 9:15 a.m.	Introductions/Conference Leaders and Participants, Dr. George D. Gates, Idaho State University
9:15-10:30 a.m.	TEACHING ABOUT THE ARAB WORLD Arab Identity: Who are the Arabs? Dr. Robert Staab, University of Utah
10:30-10:45 a.m.	BREAK
10:45-12:00 noon	TEACHING ABOUT THE ARAB WORLD Comparative Religions, Ms. Charlotte Albright, University of Washington
12:00- 1:00 p.m.	TEACHING ABOUT THE ARAB WORLD Luncheon—An Arab Feast, Heritage Room, ISU Student Union Building
1:00- 2:30 p.m.	TEACHING ABOUT THE ARAB WORLD ((in the secondary school) A Twelve Year Perspective, Mr. Jerrold Fix, Arrow-head High School, Hartland, Wisconsin
2:30- 2:45 p.m.	BREAK
2:45- 4:15 p.m.	TEACHING ABOUT THE ARAB WORLD Resources and Sources of Resources, Dr. Staab, Ms. Albright, Mr. Fix
4:15 p.m.	Evaluation/Conference Closure, Dr. George Gates

CONFERENCE LEADERS

DR. ROBERT STAAB

Dr. Staab is Assistant Director of the Middle East Center at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. He is a specialist in Turkish history and president of the Middle East Outreach Committee, a national organization committed to the improvement of Middle Eastern studies in American schools.

MS. CHARLOTTE ALBRIGHT

Ms. Albright is Outreach Coordinator of the Middle East Resource Center. MERC is a part of the U.S. Department of Education Middle East Program at the University of Washington, Seattle.

MR. JERROLD E. FIX

Mr. Fix is an instructor of Arab World Studies at Arrowhead High School in Hartland, Wisconsin. He is an associate member of the Center for Middle East Studies at the University of Chicago, and a member of the Middle East Institute in Washington, D.C.

ISU News Release

Date: June 15, 1988

Contact: Robert F. Ogg
(208)236-3620

by ISU University Relations

ONWARD TO EXCELLENCE (OTE) PROGRAM

POCATELLO--Thirteen schools are signed up for the Onward to Excellence (OTE) process being implemented to bring about long-term, continued improvement in student performance, according to Angela Luckey, coordinator of the League of Schools at Idaho State University.

"We've had no dropouts among the school districts and we are 100 percent in attendance, which is excellent, according to Dr. Bruce Miller, our trainer for the project from the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory (NWREL), who's had experience from past projects in other states," Ms. Luckey said.

The League of Schools, in cooperation with NWREL, is concerned with improving schools in rural Idaho. The program, which will continue for at least two years, got underway with a "design conference" in Pocatello. Representatives of the participating districts and organizations laid out the basic plans specifically for Idaho schools.

The League of Schools, whose membership includes the ISU College of Education and several southeast Idaho school districts, is the service arm of the Bureau of Educational Research and Services (BERS) in the ISU College of Education.

"The thirteen schools are making an effort to become more effective and are striving to do what needs to be done to become excellent in all areas: achievement, attitude and behavior of students," Ms. Luckey said.The participating schools are:

William Thomas Middle School from American Falls Joint District #381;

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Paris Elementary, Bear Lake County School District #33; Grace Elementary, Grace Joint District #148;

Inkom Elementary, Marsh Valley District #21; Malad Elementary, Oneida County School District #351; Bonneville Elementary and Indian Hills Elementary, Pocatello School District #25;

Oakwood Elementary, Jefferson Middle School, and Preston High School, Preston Joint School District #52; Snake River Middle School, Snake River School District #52; ShoBan School, Fort Hall; Falls Valley Elementary, Bonneville School District #93; and Mountain View Elementary, Cassia County Joint School District #151.

"Dr. Miller constantly praises the extraordinary effort of the leadership teams in Idaho and the excellent support which the districts have shown," Ms. Luckey said. "Also, that ISU is providing credit for the work," she added.

"We have gone through three intensive training workshops in which teams learned about effective schooling research, profiling, and goal setting," said Ms. Luckey. "The teams reported good reception from their staff members of the OTE project and support from the district as far as release time to do the profiling. They reported that staff working together on the same project united them, raised interest in school improvement, and increasingly convinced them of assured follow-up to this preliminary work.

"The profiling work has helped the school take a look at the current status of the attitude, behavior, and achievement of the students, based on data from surveys and test results. Some schools had very good records, while others became more systematic in keeping accurate records as a result of the profiling workshop. All were greatly satisfied with the profiling process and,

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while it required a lot of time and effort, they felt this to be worthwhile and now have to only update it every year to keep a current record of the status of the school and areas which might need improvement. This kind of work helps the school and us to better identify areas of weakness, design more specific activities to help solve the problems, and respond to the needs.

"Our next workshop is on prescription planning. Goals will have been decided on by the teams and staff using the results outlined in the profile of each school. The goals will be published later but at this point some goals which have been identified for improvement are in the areas of reading, discipline, attendance, and study skills. The next step is what to do about the goals. That will be the subject of the next workshop. Teams will plan activities for improvement to be implemented during the next school year," Ms. Luckey said.

"Dr. Alicia Montoya (an assistant professor in the ISU Department of Education) and I will go to Portland this summer for a training of trainers in OTE. Our goal will be to help those teams already in OTE and to work with Dr. Miller in getting other schools started in this process. Later this year and/or next summer, team members from the participating schools will be selected to be trained as OTE trainers also," Ms. Luckey stated.

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LEAGUE OF SCHOOLS CHOSEN

The Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory at Portland, Oregon, recently chose the League of Schools at Idaho State University as one of three educational consortiums with which to work during the next year.

The League of Schools membership includes the ISU College of Education and several southeast Idaho school districts. The League is the service arm of the Bureau of Educational Research and Services (BERS) in the College of Education.

Informing the League of Schools of its selection as a model consortium was Dr. Steve Nelson of the NWREL. A consortium in Washington and another in Montana were also selected as models. (1985-86)

LEAGUE OF SCHOOLS CHOSEN FOR DIRECTORY

The League of Schools program at Idaho State University will be featured in a school-college directory to be published by Syracuse University and two educational associations.

The directory, part of "Project Advance" at Syracuse University, will list school-college partnerships. There were over 1,000 nominations for the directory, representing over 700 institutions.

Idaho State's program was one of 150 which will be featured in the directory. In addition to Syracuse University, other sponsors of the project include the American Association for Higher Education and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

Idaho State University

League of Schools

Contact: Angela Luckey, Coordinator
League of Schools
Idaho State University
Pocatello, ID 83209

The League of Schools is a collaborative staff development consortium involving twelve Southeastern Idaho (primarily rural) school districts and the College of Education at Idaho State University. This organizational arrangement, supported by dues from all of its members, is systematically meeting identified professional development needs through the pooling of resources, the provision of technical assistance, the facilitation of human and material resources, provision of an available research source, and the participation of university-wide personnel. The League binds together elementary and secondary schools and a university in a commitment to improve professional development.

Reprinted from MORE GOOD IDEAS: Responses to Changing Educational Needs by State Colleges and Universities, 1985

News Release

IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY

For Immediate Release:

March 13, 1986

Contact: Robert F. Ogg

(208)236-3620

LEAGUE OF SCHOOLS CHOSEN

POCATELLO--The Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory at Portland, Ore., recently chose the League of Schools at Idaho State University as one of three educational consortiums with which to work during the next year.

"The laboratory is going to help us do our job better and use us as a model of a consortium that works in helping rural education get ahead," said Angela Luckey, League of Schools coordinator.

The League of Schools membership includes the ISU College of Education and several southeast Idaho school districts. The league is the service arm of the Bureau of Educational Research and Services (BERS) in the College of Education.

Informing the League of Schools of its selection as a model consortium was Dr. Steve Nelson of the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory. A consortium in Washington and another in Montana were also chosen as models.

"The Northwest Laboratory will be helping us with a staff development workshop this spring as one of the first projects in focusing on aiding the three consortiums by supplying materials and possible resource persons," said Ms. Luckey. "We will be serving as

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a dissemination center for materials produced by the Northwest Laboratory and for research," she added.

Dr. Nelson recently addressed the superintendents of the school districts which comprise the League of Schools at a bimonthly league meeting. In January the league held its Second Annual Administrators' Winter Conference. "We're starting to schedule things for summer and fall," said Ms. Luckey.

This year the league has established centers where three school districts that are close to each other can meet. One center has four schools. "We grouped the school districts together, then we brought the classes to their people and split the cost of the classes among the school districts in that center," Ms. Luckey said. "With the centers we saved at least one-third the cost of a class. This way the small districts can afford to have more staff development in their school districts."

The league presents classes that are basically for teachers. "Last fall we ran 41 classes or workshops for credit and non-credit and this spring we have 57 classes and workshops going," the league coordinator said.

An example of one of the classes is Science for the Elementary School Teacher, taught by Dr. Jack Piel. An example of a workshop is instruction called Project Wild, sponsored in part by the Idaho Fish and Game Department and taught by Dr. Shirley Wright.

One function of the League of Schools is to help the member

districts in assessing their needs, according to Ms. Luckey.

Dr. Richard Sagness, dean of the ISU College of Education, has said that, "Purpose of the league is to provide a process and vehicle by which the participating school districts and the College of Education at ISU can mutually benefit from a collaborative arrangement in organizing for staff improvement (assessing needs, prioritizing inservice training, identifying human and material resources, allocating financial resources, delivery of staff improvement programs and evaluating their effectiveness).

The League of Schools at ISU is listed in the 1985 booklet called "More Good Ideas (Responses to Changing Educational Needs by State Colleges and Universities)." This is published by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

MONTPELIER
GRACE
ROCKLAND
DAYTON
ABERDEEN
AMERICAN FALLS
BLACKFOOT

School districts comprising the League of Schools at ISU are:

Bear Lake District #33; Grace District #148; Rockland District #382; and Westside District #202; Aberdeen School District #58; American Falls School District #381; Blackfoot School District #55;

ARIMO	Marsh Valley School District #21; North Gem School
BANCROFT	District #149;
MALAD	Oneida County School District #351; Pocatello
POCATELLO	School District #25; Preston School District #201;
PRESTON	Snake River School District #52; and Soda Springs
MORELAND	School District #150.
SODA SPRINGS	

News Release

IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY

For Immediate Release:

February 23, 1987

Contact: Kip Rutty

(208)236-2679

by ISU Public Affairs

LEAGUE OF SCHOOLS
CHOSEN FOR DIRECTORY

POCATELLO--The League of Schools program at Idaho State University will be featured in a school-college directory to be published by Syracuse University and two educational associations.

The directory, part of "Project Advance" at Syracuse University, will list school-college partnerships. There were over 1,000 nominations for the directory, representing over 700 institutions.

Idaho State's program was one of 150 which will be featured in the directory. In addition to Syracuse University, other sponsors of the project include the American Association for Higher Education and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

"We are honored to have been chosen from among so many for inclusion in the directory," said Angela Luckey, ISU coordinator for the League of Schools.

The League of Schools was developed to address what ISU calls a long-standing concern that teacher in-service practices all too

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often generate dissatisfaction and little improvement in classroom learning, according to Luckey.

She said the league was established to provide a process and vehicle so participating school districts and the ISU College of Education could mutually benefit by a collaborative organization of staff improvement activities.

The ISU College of Education provides credit and non-credit workshops for members of the league. The league currently consists of 14 southeastern Idaho school districts and the ISU College of Education.

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News, Notes, &

IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY
Volume 2, No. 1 January 11, 1988

In the News

ZOBELL RECEIVES NATIONAL HONOR

Dr. Bowen accepts award on behalf of Dr. ZoBell

An ISU alum who is widely regarded as the father of marine microbiology, *Dr. Claude E. ZoBell*, recently was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award for 1987 from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU).

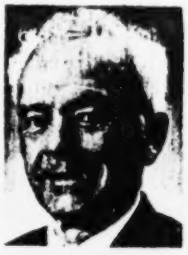
Rosalynn Carter, wife of former President Jimmy Carter, received a similar award from the national organization which represents more than 370 state colleges and universities. ISU is a member of the organization.

Dr. ZoBell was cited by AASCU "as an individual who has made a significant contribution to the intellectual/cultural life of the nation and world through your teaching, scientific expeditions, and research in marine microbiology."

Mrs. Carter was named for the honor because of her contributions to the field of mental health.

Both recipients were honored at the AASCU 27th Annual Meeting held in New Orleans, La. Dr. ZoBell was nominated for the honor by *Diane Olson*, ISU alumni director.

ISU President *Dr. Richard L. Bowen* accepted the AASCU award in New Orleans on behalf of Dr. ZoBell. Dr. Bowen will later travel to La Jolla, Calif., to give the award to Dr. ZoBell, who could not attend the New Orleans meeting. Dr. ZoBell's recovery from back surgery and his battle against diabetes kept him from attending.



Dr. Claude E. ZoBell

Dr. ZoBell graduated from Albion State Normal School at Albion, Idaho, in 1924. This school was closed in 1951 and all student records were transferred to Idaho State College, which later became Idaho State University.

"By special ruling of the board of directors of the ISU Alumni Association, all Albion alumni were designated as ISU alumni and became eligible for membership in the ISU Alumni Association," said Dr. ZoBell. "This explains my being an ISU alumnus," he added.

Dr. ZoBell and his family lived on a farm near Rigby beginning in 1913. He attended elementary school and high school in Rigby and graduated from high school in 1922.

After two years as a fifth-grade teacher and principal at the Rigby Elementary School, Dr. ZoBell enrolled at Utah State Agricultural College in Logan where he earned a B.S. degree in 1927 and an M.S. degree in 1929. He earned his Ph.D., degree at the University of California in Berkeley. He accepted an offer for a tenure faculty position in marine microbiology at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, Calif., effective Jan. 1, 1932.

ISU BABY U PROGRAM BEGINS TODAY

"Baby U," a new infant care program for children ranging in age from six weeks to three years of age, begins today on the ISU campus, announced *Nancy Griffith*, director of the ISU Early Learning Center. the program serves infants of ISU students, faculty, and staff.

A $25 deposit (non-refundable and to be applied to first week fees) is required with the enrollment package in order to hold a child's place in the program. The enrollment package can be picked up at the Early Learning Center located on the corner of Ninth and Terry streets.

"We can only accept the licensed limit for enrollment," said Ms. Griffith, "and our full time staff will provide a ratio of care given to the infants of one to four which is better than what licensing provisions require."

"Registration is taking place now, and there will be a limit as to how many we can take," Ms. Griffith emphasized.

Infants can be enrolled either for a full day (7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) or a half day session (7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) or afternoon session (11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.).

Parents can take advantage of any of the above schedules for the following costs with a $5 one-time registration fee.

Cost for ISU students will be: *Infant* (six weeks to 12 months), $9.50—Full day, $5.50—Half day; *Toddler* (13-24 months), $9—Full day, $5—Half day; *Two-year olds* (25-36 months), $8.50—Full day, $4.50—Half day.

For ISU faculty and staff, the costs will be as follows: *Infant*, $10—Full day, $6—Half day; *Toddler*, $9.50—Full day, $5.50—Half day; *Two-Year olds*, $9—Full day, $5—Half day.

For further information, contact Nancy Griffith at 2769.

PROGRAM AIMED AT IMPROVING SCHOOLS

The League of Schools begins a program in January designed to bring about long-term, continued improvement in student performance.

The league, in cooperation with the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory (NWREL), is concerned with improving schools in rural Idaho.

The program, which will continue for at least two years, got underway with a "design conference" recently in Pocatello. Representatives of the participating districts and organizations laid out the basic plans specifically for Idaho schools.

The program emphasizes orderly improvement in the whole school. Each school first examines the current level of school performance. Then, based on that information, the school selects an improvement goal to work on. The school developes and begins a plan to achieve that goal using the most promising and effective practices from educational research. Throughout the process, NWREL staff will provide assistance to the local district.

The school improvement process was originated by NWREL and has been implemented successfully by nearly 300 primarily urban and suburban schools. "In Montana, the process is being adapted to the specific needs and circumstances of smaller districts serving mainly rural students," explains NWREL's Robert Blum.

The training and assistance will be provided by NWREL at a minimum cost to the Idaho districts. The program is supported by a Congressional appropriation to NWREL specifically to assist small, rural schools in their efforts to improve student performance.

"Unlike other training programs, this process does not stop with the achievement of one goal," Blum adds. "It provides for continuous improvement over a long period of time."

The League of Schools, whose membership includes the Idaho State University College of Education and several southeast Idaho school districts, is the service arm of the Bureau of Educational Research and Services (BERS) in the ISU College of Education.

Headquartered in Portland, Ore., NWREL is an independent, nonprofit educational research and development organization which works with schools in Idaho and other Northwest states to improve their educational programs.

DOCKTER NAMED DIRECTOR

Wanda Dockter was named University Relations Director for ISU effective December 28, 1987, according to President *Richard L. Bowen*.

Ms. Dockter previously served as Job Development Director for ISU's School of Vocational-Technical Education. She has more than 10 years of experience in public relations.

"Quotes"

ISU News Release

Date: February 10, 1989

Contact: Robert F. Ogg
(208)236-3620

by ISU University Relations

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
(ONWARD TO EXCELLENCE)

POCATELLO--The Onward to Excellence (OTE) process devoted to improving instruction in public schools will begin on Tuesday, Feb. 28, with a workshop to be held at the Idaho State University College of Education.

"School districts, teachers, and administrators are working together on school improvement strategies to improve student performance," said Angela Luckey, coordinator of the League of Schools at ISU.

The League of Schools, whose membership includes the ISU College of Education and several southeast Idaho School districts, is the service arm of the Bureau of Educational Research and Services (BERS) in the ISU College of Education. Ms. Luckey also is the BERS acting director.

"The Feb. 28 workshop will begin the (OTE) process which will run for about one and one-half years," Ms. Luckey said. "This workshop is for principals and central office personnel."

"The League of Schools, in cooperation with the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory (NWREL), is concerned with improving schools in rural Idaho," Ms. Luckey stated.

Participating in the Feb. 28 workshop will be: Pocatello District #25--Wilcox, Edahow, Lewis and Clark, and Lincoln elementary schools and Pocatello High school; West Side District #202--West Side Junior-Senior High School; Blackfoot District #55--Stalker and Stoddard elementary schools; Grace District $148--Thatcher Elementary School; and Marsh Valley District #21- Marsh Valley Junior High School.

##RO##

University Relations • Idaho State University • Box 8265 • Administration Building Rm. 142 • Pocatello, Idaho 83209

ISU News Release

Date: February 10, 1989 **Contact:** Robert F. Ogg
(208)236-3620

by ISU University Relations

LEAGUE OF SCHOOLS HONORED

POCATELLO--The League of Schools--which is based at Idaho State University--has been selected for inclusion in a model programs inventory project of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) and the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC).

"This is a two-year project of the AASCU and ERIC," said Angela Luckey, the league coordinator.

"The ISU College of Education's League of Schools is recognized statewide and nationally as an example of a successful program for collaborative staff development," Ms. Luckey added.

The League of Schools, whose membership includes the ISU College of Education and several southeast Idaho school districts, is the service arm of the Bureau of Educational Research and Services (BERS) in the ISU College of Education. Ms. Luckey also is the BERS acting director.

School districts and schools which are members of the League of Schools are:

AMERICAN FALLS
BLACKFOOT
GRACE
POCATELLO
PRESTON
ROCKLAND
FT. HALL
SODA SPRINGS

--American Falls District #381; Arbon Elementary #383; Bear Lake County #33; Blackfoot #55; Grace #148; Marsh Valley #21; North Gem #149; --Oneida #351; Pocatello #25; Preston #201; Rockland #382; ShoBan Tribal School; Snake River #52; Soda Springs #150; and West Side #202. In addition, the ISU College of Liberal Arts is a member.

The AASCU received a two-year grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE) for the model programs inventory project.

"All projects which were nominated for the G. Theodore Mitau Award for Innovation and Change in Higher Education were invited to participate in the model programs inventory project," Ms. Luckey said. ##RO##

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B.E.R.S.

BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH & SERVICES

B.E.R.S. Staff

League of Schools Administrative Meeting

Bureau of Educational Research and Services
College of Education
Box 8059
Idaho State University
Pocatello, ID 83209-0009
Telephone: (208) 236-3202

BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH & SERVICES

MISSION:

The primary mission of the BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES is to provide staff development and research services to public and private agencies outside the university.

B.E.R.S. is organized under the direction of the College of Education at Idaho State University. In addition to contributing to the broad goals and missions of the college, the Bureau will provide services to school districts, state agencies, and private institutions within the time and financial constraints associated with the service.

RESEARCH:

B.E.R.S. engages in applied and pure research, expertise relevant to the research efforts of public school officials, professional educators, and other research agencies:

- Designing and conducting research
- Consultation on development of proposals for funding research
- Dissemination of research findings
- Planning and conducting research seminars or conferences

Planning and Evaluation:

- Needs assessments
- Program planning
- Management development
- Program evaluation

Writing Grant Proposals (Local, State, Federal):

- Design
- Objectives
- Impact report
- Management plan
- Budget Development
- Critique
- Personnel & facilities
- Funding sources
- Needs assessment
- Methodology
- Evaluation design
- Timeline-flow charts
- Transmittal forms
- Project approval information
- Procedures
- Writing style & format

SERVICES:

B.E.R.S. has the capacity to assist agencies with:

1) **STAFF DEVELOPMENT:**
Inservice training programs can be tailored to meet the needs of the school districts:
*Workshops
*Seminars
*Lectures
*Courses (on site)
*Courses (on campus)

2) **EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES PLANNING:**
- Survey
- Evaluations
- Site Planning
- Specifications
- Bonding Procedures
- Finances

3) **EDUCATIONAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT:**
*Development of Rules and Regulations
*Codification of Policies
*Revision of Policy Handbooks

4) **PERSONNEL SELECTION AND ADMINISTRATION:**
*Criteria Development
*Recruitment Procedures
*Selection Processes
*Staff Evaluation
*Climate Studies
*Job Specifications

5) **CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION PROGRAM:**
*Development of Curriculum
*Innovative Teaching Approaches
*Innovative Learning Approaches

6) **STUDIES OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND NEEDS:**
Analysis of financial programs such as:
*Budgets
*Equalization
*Taxation
*Business Procedures

THE LEAGUE OF SCHOOLS:

The League of Schools is a unique alliance of school districts and the College of Education which enjoys the advantage of collaborative planning:

- School districts and the university working cooperatively.
- Pooling of resources for staff development to relieve financial strain on districts.
- Formal access for the ISU College of Education to school districts' professional development needs.
- Technical assistance for school districts in all areas of staff development: long range planning, personnel training, program management, evaluation.

Grant Writing Workshop

CONTACT:

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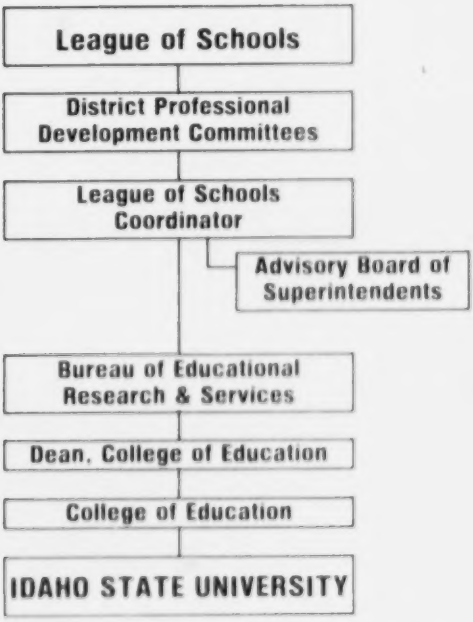

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